(c) if not, what percentage of the inhabitated areas still remain to be covered and what steps Government propose to give 100 per cent coverage by AIR and later on by TV network?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) In Phase II of expansion of FM Radio service through private agencies, 337 Channels across the 91 cities were offered. Though stations would be located withfin the municipal limits of these 91 cities, rural areas within the coverage zone of these stations would also get serviced. Location of private radio stations have been chosen keeping in view the population of the cities, commercial viability and coverage by existing or proposed private FM radio stations.

(b) and (c) AIR covers 91.42% of area and 99.13% of population of the country. Uncovered areas are mainly in hilly States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and North East States. After completion of 10th Plan Schemes, the coverage will go up to 92.92% by area and 99.49% by population. Besides, whole of the country is covered through short wave radio signals. In addition, 12 radio Channels are also available through Doordarshan's KU Band (free air DTH) Transmission service, which can be listened to throughout the country (except A&N Islands) with the help of a small size Dish Receiving Unit.

Doordarshan's free DTH Service provides television coverage in the entire country (except A&N Islands) including North East, Ladakh, rural and hilly areas. Terrestrial mode TV coverage is available to about 91% of the population of the country.

Showing the film 'Rang De Basanti'

1418. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the film 'Rang De Basanti' had to be shown to Defence Minister and Chiefs of Armed Forces before screening it in public;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it was mandatory to show the film after having been cleared by Censor Board; and

(d) if so, whether there is any precedent of this type?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BORADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI) (a) and (b): No, sir. However, the film 'Rang De Basanti' was reffered to the Ministry of Defence after the film was examined by the Examining Committee as it was felt that it contained scenes concerning the Ministry of Defence, particularly the Air Force, (c) In accordance with Rule 41 (c) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, the film can be reffered to an expert body by the Chairperson of Central Board of Film Certification, if the members of the Examining Committee feel that it is so required in view of the film depicting subjects relating to defence or foreign relations, etc.

(d) In the past, the films 'border[1] (Hindi) and 'Line of Control' (Hindi) were given clearance by Ministry of Defence on the request of the applicant prior to the film being examined by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). In the case of the film Tango Charli', the Examining Committee of CBFC asked the producer to get an NOC from the Ministry of Defence.

Regulations for private domain of the citizens

1419. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to bring in certain regulations in the manner in which the media is encroaching on the private domain of the citizens of this country especially the politicians, and prominent film personalities etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has constituted a Committee on 30.10.2005 for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder and the Guidelines for Certification of Films prescribed under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. This Committee consists of representatives from Film Industry, Music Industry, Advertising Agencies Association of India (AAAI), Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), Centre for Media Studies (CMS), Vidya Sagar Institute of Mental Health & Neuroscience (VIMHANS), Consumer Council and